

REMARKS

The Examiner has rejected Claims 17-19 under section 112. These claims have been cancelled.

The Examiner has rejected the remaining claims under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Thornton '666, in view of Heller '146 and further in view of Comer '856.

The Examiner has not considered all of the limitations of the claims, as is required.

In the previous amendment, the Applicants added a limitation to the notion of not communicating the keyboard, video display and mouse signals through the expansion slot.

The Examiner admits that the Thornton and Heller references alone are insufficient to establish a prima facie case of obviousness when the Examiner stated in the last paragraph of section 8 of the office action on page 5:

“Thornton and Heller do not specifically disclose the
keyboard, mouse and video signals not communicating
through the expansion slot.”

The Examiner then goes on to say that since the Comer reference shows a keyboard signal which is not communicated through the expansion slot, and because there is an ambiguous statement in the patent that the device could be used with all devices, it is obvious to not communicate display signals through the expansion slot. However, this rationale ignores the clear and specific teaching away in the Comer reference from the present invention. Comer in column 12, lines 52-57, clarifies the ambiguity from the earlier paragraph when it teaches specifically that if you are going to communicate display data, it is done through the expansion slot.

“First, the controller 60 reads the computer memory 70, via the computer data bus and retrieves the display data therefrom.” See Column 12, lines 55-57.

It is improper to resolve the ambiguity in a way that is in direct opposition to a specific teaching in the next paragraph.

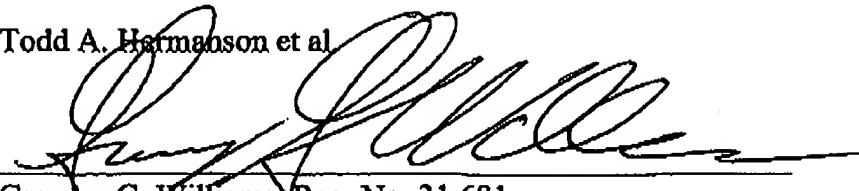
The Applicants believe that when the application, as amended, is considered as a whole with each and every limitation, including the previously amended limitation to not communicate video signals through the expansion slot, it will be clear that all claims, including such limitations, are allowable over the cited references.

Reconsideration of the 103 rejections is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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